

IDAHO PRESS-TRIBUNE

BSU-West opens for first round of classes

Education: Officials say about 500 students have enrolled while recent flooding delays some services

By Tammie Knauff - Idaho Press-Tribune

NAMPA -- Boise State University classes began Monday in a new Canyon County space -- the first academic building on the BSU-West campus north of the Idaho Center.

Executive Director Dennis Griffin said about 500 students are enrolled for the summer program, which consists of several sessions that overlap.

Officials intend for the BSU-West campus, located along Can-Ada Road, to become the future home of the Larry G. Selland College of Applied Technology and serve as a hub for a full-fledged community college.

This summer, biology, English, math and other academic classes will be taught in the classrooms at the new building, funded by the Legislature in 2003.

The 65,000-square-foot academic building features up-to-date classrooms, computer, distance learning and science labs. Every classroom and lecture hall contains a ceiling-mounted projection system that will work with DVDs, CDs, the BSU Network or satellite programming to fit each teacher's needs.

It now includes 21 classrooms with three science labs, two computer labs and two distance-learning labs.

The existing Canyon County Center on Nampa-Caldwell Boulevard will still operate as the home of technology classes for Canyon County students until a technology-based building can be constructed on the BSU-West campus.

A new bookstore -- a smaller version of the store at the main Boise State campus -- will serve both Canyon County BSU locations.

Griffin said the new building will cater to the needs of both traditional and non-traditional students.

Although the building opened on time, officials said a mishap involving a coffee machine prompted the reorganization of a portion of the building. The machine flooded some third floor offices, and water drained all the way down to the first floor.

Carpet had to be torn up in the administration offices, a lecture hall and the future library. Griffin hopes to have the areas put back together later in the summer -- before fall classes begin.

"We came right down to the wire of getting things unpacked and organized," Griffin said.

BSU plans meeting

Prospective students, parents, friends and family are invited to attend an evening information session hosted by the Larry G. Selland College of Applied Technology.

It will be held from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Thursday at the Boise State Canyon County Center, 2401 Nampa-Caldwell Boulevard, room 208, in Nampa.

This session is open to anyone interested in career training. The college offers 28 different career training programs to anyone who can benefit. Officials said the programs can be completed in four to 24 months. Financial aid is available.

Everyone is welcome regardless of previous educational experience.

For more information, call 426-1431 or go online to <http://selland.boisestate.edu>

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